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Confidential Information

MAY 6 1952

MEMORANDUM FROM: Chief of Staff  
United States Air Force  
Washington 25, D. C.

SUBJECT: Operation Recruit

1. Due to the unique military personnel requirements of the Central Intelligence Agency, it became necessary, several months ago to reconcile the Air Force policy of naming by qualification and this agency's need to hand-pick personnel after interview.
2. Through the cooperation of the Air Force Officers Assignment Division, this problem was solved, our immediate needs well satisfied, and a valuable reservoir of qualified candidates established. The program under which this was done has been known as "Operation Recruit." Through this operation several hundred officer files were reviewed and those officers selected brought to Washington on temporary duty for placement interviews.
3. I am told by our Military Personnel Division that the caliber of the officers whom we interviewed was outstandingly high, reflecting most favorably on the Air Force, and resulting in the selection of many fine officers to fill key jobs in CIA.
4. Due to our returned personnel requirements, it has now proved to be unnecessary to continue the project on a full scale basis. However, I wish to express my appreciation for the splendid cooperation of your Personnel Officers in handling this project.

Very,

MAURICE S. SMITH

Director

MPD/DPF/hw (24 Apr 52)

Rewritten: ADD/A:LKW:laq (2 May 52)

Rewritten: JSE:mlk (O/DCI)

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MEMORANDUM TO: THE DIRECTOR

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Recommend signature.



WALTER REID WOLF  
Deputy Director  
(Administration)

5/6. Red

3 May 1952  
(DATE)